

## **STAFF REPORT**

Meeting Date: 03/11/05  
Agenda Item: 11

To: BEACON Board of Directors  
From: Contracts Manager  
Date 03/02/05

**Subject: Coast of California Storm & Tidal Wave Study**

### **REQUIRED ACTION:**

- A Authorize Executive Director to approve an agreement between BEACON and the University of California San Diego Scripps Institute of Oceanography for a Wave Study for a not to exceed amount of \$170,000.
- B Authorize Executive Director to approve an agreement between BEACON and the United States Geologic Survey (USGS) for Baseline Surveys for a not to exceed amount of \$395,000.

### **DISCUSSION:**

The Army Corps of Engineer's Coast of California Storm & Tidal Wave Study (CCSTWS) program seeks to develop regional shore protection/sand management plans for the entire California coastline. The program is being implemented by region/county basis, with San Diego being first, followed by Monterey, Los Angeles, and Orange County. Now, it's Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties' turn.

The purpose of the study is to gain a better understanding of the underlying coastal processes that govern the width of our beaches and the movement of sand along our coastline. The study does not focus on individual beach erosion problems and/or solutions. The scope of the study is set forth in the Project Master Plan (PMP). The study includes a series of wave and coastal bathymetry measurements as well as an in-depth assessment of local coastal processes. The overall cost of the study is \$2.78M, spread out over a four-year period. The primary benefits of the study will be a better understanding of our local coastal processes and beach erosion problems, an improved set of tools to predict future beach erosion patterns in our region, and a means for rapidly disseminating the information to interested government planning, engineering and regulatory agencies.

As the local sponsor, BEACON has signed a Feasibility Cost Sharing Agreement (FCSA) with the US Corps of Engineers (USCOE). The FCSA stipulates that BEACON will be responsible for 50% of the cost of the study (\$1.39M), which can be made up of cash or in-kind services. The State can also contribute towards the local sponsor's share of the cost. This commitment is non-binding on either party, with the study being delayed if Federal and/or Local funds are not available. The work is typically performed/managed by the USCOE.



A California Joint Powers Agency

#### **Member Agencies**

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County of Santa Barbara  
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## **BEACON BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT**

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The State Department of Boating & Waterways (DB&W) has obligated to date a total of \$650,000 to BEACON towards the local share. Of the \$650,000 obligated, \$250,000 expires in the summer of 2005.

In this current fiscal year, the USCOE has very little committed funding towards the CCSTWS. As a result of this and due to the potential expiration of \$250,000 of DBAW funds granted to BEACON, it has been agreed between the USCOE, BEACON and DBAW, that BEACON will go ahead and fund a number of upfront studies required by the Project Master Plan (PMP). By proceeding with these studies the CCSTWS keeps moving despite the lack of USCOE funding while at the same time the cost of the studies contribute as "in-kind" services for BEACON as part of their local share (50%) of the program.

The studies that will be funded by BEACON through the DBAW Grant Funds are:

Study: Wave Study.  
By: University of California San Diego Scripps Institute of Oceanography (Scripps).  
Budget: Not to exceed amount of \$170,000.  
Scope: The Coastal Data Information Program (CDIP) at Scripps Institution of Oceanography has developed a measurement-based methodology to predict regional nearshore (nominally 8-10m depth) wave conditions along the California coastline. The wave prediction scheme uses a linear wave propagation model in combination with strategically placed deep water, directional wave buoys. For this project the buoys will be placed so as to focus on sections of the Santa Barbara and Ventura County coastlines where the wave field is altered significantly by the reflection of north swells from Santa Cruz Island

Study: Baseline Surveys.  
By: United States Geologic Survey (USGS).  
Budget: Not to exceed amount of \$395,000.  
Scope: Identify and quantify the pathways for nearshore sediment transport in Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties, with emphasis on critical regions of shoreline erosion. Conduct a regional study of the Santa Barbara-Ventura County coast, complemented with several localized studies in areas of critical interest. Work will be conducted with both state-of-the-art field and numerical modeling techniques.

The BEACON contracts with Scripps and the USGS are not currently ready for execution. Therefore, Staff is requesting that the Board authorize the Executive Director to approve the contracts for the not to exceed amount indicated above.

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